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(54) Repositionable adhesive tape.

(57) An adhesive of certain elastomeric block copolymers and tackifying materials can be hot-melt coated onto a flexible backing to provide an adhesive tape. The adhesive can be low-tack or tack-free. When the novel adhesive is tacky, it can bind sheets into a note pad from which individual sheets can be removed, temporarily adhered to paper and other substrates, and later cleanly removed, even after prolonged contact.

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Background of the Invention

The invention is concerned with low-tack adhesives that substantially do not experience adhesion build-up, and so provide tapes that are repositionable, even after being adhered to a substrate for prolonged periods of time. Of special interest are low-tack pressure-sensitive adhesive note pads.

Description of the Related Art

POST-ITM note pads have become virtually indispensable in the office, each sheet bearing a stripe of pressure-sensitive adhesive that is sufficiently tacky to adhere to paper and other substrates but does not show a build-up of adhesion. The sheets can be cleanly removed and reapplied a number of times without loss of tackiness. These attributes are realized due to the use of tacky microspheres coated onto the paper substrate, as disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 3,691,140 (Silver). The same low-tack pressure-sensitive adhesive has been used for a number of other purposes, e.g., as a coating for a bulletin board or for posting ordinary pieces of paper.

The widespread success of the POST-ITM note pads and the relatively high cost of the adhesive have resulted in efforts to produce a pressure-sensitive adhesive of a more simple, and hence more economical, composition that would provide the same attributes. However, it is believed that every known pressure-sensitive adhesive has been deficient in some important respect, e.g., being too aggressively tacky or lacking the desired initial holding power or being subject to a gradual build-up in adhesion.

An adhesive that is said to afford similar properties as that used in POST-ITM note pads is the subject of U.S. Pat. No. 4,684,685 (Shuman et al.). Shuman et al.'s preferred adhesive includes a natural rubber latex and a tackifier which is an anionic aqueous dispersion of hydrogenated rosin or rosin esters. After coating the dispersion onto a substrate such as a sheet of paper, the dried coating allegedly has enough tack to adhere to solid contact surfaces by manually pressing the coated substrate to that surface. The Shuman patent says that the user can then "reapply the coated substrate as many as eight to ten additional times to the same or another free solid surface."

Although there have been attempts at providing alternative adhesive formulations which provide properties suitable for use as a repositionable adhesive, such as for repositionable note pads, there is still great interest in the discovery of yet more alternatives.

Summary of the Invention

The invention provides a low-tack adhesive that can be coated onto a backing, generally flexible, to provide an adhesive tape. It is a pressure-sensitive adhesive and can have the attributes of the adhesives of the Silver patent, while being more economical to manufacture because it is hot-melt coatable and does not require tiny balls of a stiff pressure-sensitive adhesive or cause the environmental problems of solvent coating methods. Briefly, the novel adhesive comprises a composition of by weight:

from 20 to 80 parts of at least one elastomeric block copolymer selected from styrene/butadiene, styrene/isoprene, and styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers, and

correspondingly from 80 to 20 parts of tackifying material selected from tackifier resins or blends and blends of tackifier resin with liquid plasticizer oil, which adhesive can be hot-melt coated without the use of solvents and has a composite midblock glass transition temperature (CMTg) from 225 Kelvin to 240 Kelvin when the adhesive is based on styrene/isoprene or styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers and a CMTg from 215 Kelvin to 235 Kelvin when the adhesive is based on styrene/butadiene block copolymer. The CMTg can be calculated using the Fox Equation from the measured Tg of the midblock of the elastomeric block copolymer and the measured Tg of each tackifying resin and liquid plasticizer oil. The Tg for each component is measured using a differential scanning calorimeter such as a DSC-7, manufactured by Perkin-Elmer. The Tg is measured on the second heating run using a scan rate of 20 degrees Centigrade per minute. The first heating run is made up to well above the softening point of the test material. The sample is subsequently quenched to well below the Tg of the material. Antioxidants added to the adhesive are not figured into the calculation of the CMTg.

Fox Equation

$$\frac{\sum_i W_i}{CMTg} = \sum_i \frac{W_i}{Tg_i}$$

5

where  $W_i$  is the weight fraction of component  $i$  and  $Tg_i$  is the glass transition temperature of component  $i$ . Only the midblock portion of the block copolymer is included in the calculation of the CMTg. For a styrene/isoprene block copolymer, the midblock portion is the polyisoprene portion of the molecule.

The tackifier resin or blend, or blend of tackifier resin(s) and liquid plasticizer oil(s) of the novel adhesive can be any of

solid tackifier resin(s),  
liquid tackifier resin(s),  
blend of a solid tackifier resin(s) and liquid tackifier resin(s),  
a blend of a solid tackifier resin(s) and liquid plasticizer oil(s),

15 and

a blend of solid tackifier resin(s), liquid tackifier resin(s), and liquid plasticizer oil(s).

The blends are preferred, because they give a formulator more control over the rheological properties of the adhesive than does the use of a single tackifier resin. For example, when the proportion of elastomeric block copolymer is near the high end (i.e., 55-80 parts) and the CMTg is near the high end (i.e., within 10 Kelvin) of the aforementioned ranges, the novel adhesive tends to have high resistance to shear forces and to be low-tack or tack-free. This type of adhesive is best suited for use as a self-adhering adhesive. Its low, or no, tack makes it have little or no adhesion to other substrates while its high resistance to shear when attached to itself makes it ideal for a reusable adhesive closure system.

On the other hand, the novel adhesive can be somewhat tacky when the proportion of elastomeric block copolymer is near the low end (i.e., 20-45 parts) and the CMTg is near the high end of those ranges. These adhesives are generally usable as repositionable adhesive tapes, however, they will have a tendency to build up adhesion over extended periods of time. These adhesives however will still be self-adhering and show the characteristics discussed above.

The least build-up of adhesion to other substrates is realized when both the proportion of elastomeric block copolymer and the CMTg are relatively low. These adhesives are the best suited for use as a repositionable tape on note pads, such as is used in a POST-ITM pad. These tapes, however, will still display self adhesion properties, although generally with lower shear resistance.

Overall, the lower build-up of adhesion to other substrates seems to be primarily related to CMTg, while the tendency to build up adhesion to itself seems to be primarily a function of percent polymer concentration. However, these observations are merely generally noted trends, and suitable adhesives for, e.g., self-adhering tape applications or repositionable tapes can be found outside the most likely areas to find such tapes within the invention composition.

In addition to the foregoing components, the adhesive of the invention can incorporate small amounts of other materials commonly used in pressure-sensitive adhesives, e.g., antioxidants such as hindered phenols and hydroquinones, heat stabilizers such as zinc carbamates, ultraviolet stabilizers, fillers, and pigments. Such additional materials can be disregarded in the CMTg calculation.

The adhesive of the invention can be economically converted to tapes by being coated onto backings at high speeds without the use of solvents, or can be coated from solution when that is more convenient. Depending on the backing, the backings can be surface treated to promote adhesion of the adhesive thereto. The resulting tapes can be marketed in strips or in wide sheets and usually have flexible backings for ease of storage, handling, and application. For example, stripes of the novel adhesive can be coated onto paper which is then cut and stacked to form a tablet or note pad of repositionable sheets like the aforementioned POST-ITM note pads. For such use, the adhesive is preferably somewhat tacky so that sheets of a note pad will adhere temporarily to paper and other substrates from which they can later be cleanly removed.

For uses requiring the adhesive to be somewhat tacky, such as for a repositionable note pad, the CMTg can be as low as 220 Kelvin when the adhesive is based on styrene/isoprene or styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers which comprise up to 45% by weight of the adhesive.

Whether or not the novel adhesive is low-tack or tack-free, pieces of tape bearing the adhesive have a remarkable ability to form bonds to each other that have excellent resistance to shear forces. In tests, even after four months at ordinary room temperatures, two tapes bearing the novel adhesive separate cleanly between their adhesive layers. The same tapes also separate cleanly after two hours at 37°C. However, low-tack adhesives with properties best suited for use as a repositionable adhesive have a tendency to

block slightly at above ambient temperatures (e.g., at 37° C).

The novel adhesive can be used to permit labels and masking tapes to be cleanly removed from substrates to which they may be applied. Other useful tape articles of the invention that have flexible backings include reclosable mailing envelopes, resealable bags, adhesive-backed sandpaper and sanding disks, and decals. The novel adhesive also can be marketed in a spray can from which layers can be applied for uses such as temporarily mounting posters or photographs.

#### **Detailed Disclosure**

10 Elastomeric block copolymers that are useful in the adhesive of the invention can have any of the common configurations of the block structure including linear diblock and triblock, radial, star, and tapered geometries. Useful elastomers include styrene/isoprene block copolymers such as "Kraton" 1107 and "Kraton" 1111, available from Shell Chemical Co.; "Enichem" SOL T 190, available from Enichem USA; "Quintac" 3421, "Quintac" 3430 and "Quintac" 3530, available from Nippon-Zeon; Finaprene 424, available 15 from Fina Chemical Co.; styrene/butadiene block copolymers such as "Kraton" 1101 and 1102; "Stereon" 840A, available from Firestone Synthetic Latex and Rubber Co., and "Enichem" Sol T 1205 and Sol T 161 C; and styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers such as "Kraton" 1657 and 1650.

Tackifier resins that are useful in the novel adhesives include those aliphatic hydrocarbon resins made from the polymerization of a feed stream consisting mainly of unsaturated species containing four to six carbon atoms, such as "Wingtack" 10, "Wingtack Plus", and "Wingtack" 95, available from the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., "Escorez" 1310, available from Exxon Chemical Co., and "Hercotac" RT-95, available 20 from Hercules, Inc.; rosin esters and rosin acids such as "Hercoflex" 400, "Hercoflex" 500, "Foral" 85, "Regalite" 355, and "Permalyn" 305, all available from Hercules, Inc.; mixed aliphatic/aromatic liquid tackifiers such as "Escorez" 2520 available from Exxon Chemical Co.; and polyterpene tackifiers such as 25 "Zonarez" A-25 and "Zonarez" A-100, available from Arizona Chemical Co. and "Piccolyte" HM-85, HM-105, and S-115 available from Hercules, Inc. Also useful are the general class of hydrogenated tackifying resins, including ECR-327, "Escorez" 5380, "Escorez" 5300, "Escorez" 5320, and "Escorez" 5340, all available from Exxon Chemical Co.; "Regalrez" 1018, "Regalrez" 1065, "Regalrez" 1078, "Regalrez" 1094, and "Regalrez" 1126, all available from Hercules Inc.; and "Arkon" P-90, "Arkon" P-100, "Arkon" M-90, and 30 "Arkon" M-100, available from Arakawa Chemical Co.; hydrogenated polyterpene resins such as "Nirez" K-85, "Nirez" K-105, and "Nirez" K-110, available from Reichhold Chemicals, Inc.; and hydrogenated aliphatic and aliphatic/aromatic resins such as ECR-142H and ECR-143H, available from Exxon Chemical Co. Preferred tackifying resins include the aliphatic hydrocarbon resins, the hydrogenated resins, and the polyterpene resins. Especially preferred are the aliphatic hydrocarbon resins.

35 The liquid plasticizer oils suitable for use in the adhesive of the invention include naphthenic oils such as "Shellflex" 371, available from Shell Chemical Co., paraffinic oils, aromatic oils, and mineral oils such as "Kaydol" oil, available from Witco Chemical Corp. Preferred liquid plasticizers include naphthenic oil and mineral oil.

#### **Testing**

Some tapes bearing the adhesive of the invention were subjected to one or more of the following tests:

##### **Probe Tack Value**

45 This is run according to ASTM D-2979 except using a Polyken Probe Tack tester with a polypropylene probe at a 1 cm/second probe speed, a 1 second dwell time, and a 100 gram/cm<sup>2</sup> load.

##### **90° Peel Value**

50 This is run according to PSTC-5 using a polyethylene substrate to which the test tape was applied using a 2-kg hard rubber roller, one pass in each direction at 30 cm/min. An adhesive which has a 90° Peel Value of from 2 to 8 N/25mm should be useful for making note pads of repositionable sheets like POST-IT™ note pads, because such adhesive-bearing sheets should adhere well to paper and other substrates 55 while being removable without picking fibers, even after prolonged periods of time. When the 90° Peel Value is from 0 to 2 N/25mm, the adhesive would be most useful in the above-described adhesive-to-adhesive closure as these are the least likely to adhere to ordinary packaging materials or to non-adhesive surfaces and hence will not require the use of a protective tape. However, protective tapes can be avoided .

with even higher peel values.

#### 180° Peel Value

- 5 This is run according to ASTM D-1000 except that the adhesive tape is applied to various substrates using a 2-kg hard rubber roller, one pass in each direction at 30 cm/min, and testing was carried out after less than 20 minutes dwell at ordinary room temperature. The peel rate is 30 cm/min when the substrate is paper and 225 cm/min when the substrate is metal or plastic.
- 10 Tapes are also tested after two weeks of accelerated aging at 120 °F (49 °C) and then allowed to cool to room temperature for testing.

#### 180° Dynamic Shear Value

- This value was determined using ASTM Test Method D3528-76 at a crosshead speed of 10 inches (25 cm) per minute.

#### T-Peel Value

- This value was determined using ASTM Test Method D1876-72 at a crosshead speed of 10 inches (25 cm) per minute.

#### Self-Adhesion Peel Value

- With the adhesive layers of two pieces of the same adhesive tape face-to-face, a 2-kg hard rubber roller is applied, one pass in each direction at 30 cm/min. The resulting sandwich is tested for T-peel by ASTM D-1876 at 30 cm/min.

#### Shear Adhesion Value

- 30 A one-inch square (2.54 cm-square) area of a test tape is laid with its adhesive layer against an embossed polyethylene substrate that is used as the backsheet of LUV's brand disposable diapers manufactured by Proctor and Gamble and is about 30  $\mu$ m thick. To enhance the stiffness of the substrate, the polyethylene substrate is laminated to a pressure-sensitive adhesive tape, viz., Release Tape Y-9378 manufactured by 3M Co. On the side opposite the reinforcing tape, the test tape is rolled down onto the polyethylene substrate with a 2-kg hard rubber roller, one pass in each direction at 30 cm/min. The laminated substrate and the test tape are hung vertically in a 40 °C oven for 15 minutes and a 500-gram weight is promptly hung from the test tape. The time for the weight to drop at 40 °C is the Shear Adhesion Value.

- 40 The following examples, in which all parts are by weight, are given by way of illustration and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention in any way. Commercial materials used in the examples were:

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## ELASTOMERIC BLOCK COPOLYMERS

			<u>Mtq</u>
5	"Finaprene" 424	Styrene/isoprene block copolymer	215 K
	"Kraton" 1101	Styrene/butadiene block copolymer	188 K
	"Kraton" 1107	Styrene/isoprene block copolymer	215 K
	"Kraton" 1111	Styrene/isoprene block copolymer	215 K
	"Kraton" 1657	Styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymer	215 K
10	"Quintac" 3430	Styrene/isoprene block copolymer	215 K

## SOLID TACKIFIER RESINS

			<u>Tg</u>
15	"Arkon" P-90	Hydrogenated hydrocarbon	309 K
	"Escorez" 1310	C5 aliphatic	314 K
	"Escorez" 5300	Hydrogenated hydrocarbon	323 K
	"Foral" 85	Rosin ester	313 K
20	"Piccolyte" HM-105	Styrenated terpene	327 K
	"Regalite" 355	Hydrogenated rosin acid	318 K
	"Regalrez" 1094	Hydrogenated hydrocarbon	310 K
	"Wingtack" 95	C5 aliphatic	323 K
	"Wingtack Plus"	C5 aliphatic	315 K
25	"Zonarez" A-100	Alpha-pinene	328 K

## LIQUID TACKIFIER RESINS

			<u>Tg</u>
30	ECR-143H	Hydrogenated hydrocarbon	247 K
	"Escorez" 2520	Aromatic/aliphatic	253 K
	"Hercoflex" 500	Rosin ester	238 K
	"Wingtack" 10	C5 aliphatic	245 K
35	"Zonarez" A-25	Alpha-pinene	251 K

## LIQUID PLASTICIZER OILS

			<u>Tg</u>
40	"Kaydol" Oil	Mineral oil	199 K
	"Shellflex" 371	Naphthenic oil	209 K

## ANTIOXIDANTS

45	"Irganox" 1076	Hindered Phenol (available from Ciba-Geigy)
	"Irganox" 1010	Hindered Phenol

Examples 1-18

Eighteen adhesive compositions were prepared by dissolving in toluene the components of the formulations given in Table I. One part of "Irganox" 1076 was added to each adhesive composition. Each adhesive solution was 65% by weight of solvent. Tape samples were prepared by coating the adhesive solutions onto a matte-finish cast-polypropylene backing having a thickness of 100  $\mu\text{m}$ . The coating weight of the adhesive after drying at 60 °C for 5 minutes was about 3.5 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>.

Results of testing the tapes of Examples 1-18 are reported in Table II.

TABLE I  
(Compositions for Examples 1-9 in Parts)

	<u>Example</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
5	"Finaprene" 424	60								
	"Kraton" 1107		75	50	65	40	80			
	"Kraton" 1111							50	45	80
10	"Escorez" 2520		23	47	19					
	"Kaydol" Oil							31	26	
	"Shellflex" 371					43	7			
	"Zonarez" A-25	32								16
15	"Arkon" P-90		2	3	16					
	"Escorez" 1310	8								
	"Escorez" 5300							19	29	
	"Wingtack Plus"					17	13			
	"Zonarez" A-100									4
20	Composite									
	Midblock Tg (Kelvin)	235	225	235	235	225	225	225	235	225

TABLE I (CONT.)  
(Compositions for Examples 10-18 in Parts)

	<u>Example</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>
30	"Kraton" 1101						20	50		
	"Kraton" 1111	50	70							
	"Kraton" 1657								70	40
	"Quintac" 3430				75	40	60			
35	ECR-143H								29	58
	"Shellflex" 371							57	23	
	"Wingtack" 10			20	56	24				
	"Zonarez" A-25	48	16							
40	"Arkon" P-90								1	2
	"Piccolyte" HM-105						23	27		
	"Regalrez" 1094				5	4	16			
	"Zonarez" A-100	2	14							
45	Composite									
	Midblock Tg (Kelvin)	235	235	225	235	235	225	225	225	235

TABLE II

	<u>Example</u>	<u>Probe Tack (N)</u>	<u>90° Peel Value (N/25 mm)</u>	<u>Shear Adhesion Value (minutes)</u>	<u>Self-Adhesion Peel Value (N/25 mm)</u>
5	1	4.2	1.4	2	2.2
	2	0.9	0.3	<1	2.1
10	3	4.5	1.1	2	2.2
	4	3.3	1.4	1	1.6
	5	3.2	0.4	3	1.6
	6	1.6	1.0	1	1.0
	7	2.2	0.7	3	0.5
15	8	6.5	2.0	26	0.9
	9	0.9	0.3	16	1.2
	10	3.5	2.0	2	0.9
	11	3.0	1.5	25	1.6
	12	1.1	0.4	1	0.8
20	13	5.9	2.7	6	2.5
	14	3.9	1.9	11	2.7
	15	2.9	0.2	<1	0.2
	16	2.6	0.8	<1	0.6
	17	0.2	0.1	<1	2.3
25	18	2.9	0.4	11	3.4

Examples 19-22

30 A series of adhesive compositions was made as reported in Table III, and each was dissolved in toluene to a total solids concentration of 25%, with 0.5% of "Irganox" 1010 added to stabilize the adhesive against aging. Each composition was then coated onto a 25  $\mu\text{m}$  thick biaxially oriented poly(ethylene terephthalate) backing and dried to a dry coating weight of about 1.0 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>. The blocks in the star block copolymer used in Examples 20-22 have a linear configuration, with the isoprene chain capped on each end with styrene chains and were prepared in accordance with the procedure outlined in U.S. Patent No. 4,780,367, the substance of which is incorporated herein by reference, using a divinylbenzene catalyst to yield a polymer with 16.8% styrene and the remainder predominately isoprene. Results of testing each of Examples 19-22 for 180° Peel Value are reported in Table IV.

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TABLE III  
(Compositions for Examples 19-22)

	<u>Material</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
5	"Kraton" 1107	80			17
10	Star block polymer of styrene/isoprene		35	20	25.5
15	"Wingtack Plus"	17.4	0.3	1.7	0.3
20	"Wingtack" 10	2.6	64.7	78.3	57.2
25	CMTg	230	235	240	232.5

TABLE IV  
(180° Peel Value in N/25 mm)

	<u>Substrate</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>
20	Paper	1.7	3.2	5.0	2.4
25	After aging	4.1	8.9	6.6	7.0
30	Stainless Steel	16	11	25	17
35	After aging	31	25	35	28
40	BOPP	19	13	24	20
45	After aging	18	19	26	20
50	PET	28	18	23	22
55	After aging	28	29	35	27

35      Paper = ordinary bond copy paper  
 BOPP = biaxially oriented polypropylene  
 PET = biaxially oriented poly(ethylene terephthalate)

40      The data reported in Table IV show that each of the adhesives of Examples 19-22 has low adhesion to paper and other substrates and has low adhesion build-up with time evidenced by low adhesion after accelerated aging for two weeks at 49 °C. This demonstrates that the adhesive of any of Examples 19-22 should be a suitable substitute, in repositionable note pads, for the adhesive of the above-cited Silver patent, even though these are not preferred examples of such substitute adhesives.

### Example 23

50      A handspread of 50% solution in toluene of 70 parts of "Kraton" 1657 and 30 parts of "Res" D-2084 was pulled onto biaxially oriented poly(ethylene terephthalate) film having a thickness of 12.5 µm. The dried coating weight was about 24 g/m<sup>2</sup>. This adhesive had:

CMTg = 238 Kelvin

180° Dynamic Shear Value to itself = 588 N/cm<sup>2</sup>

T-Peel Value = 6.5 N/25 mm

### Comparative Examples A-G

A series of tapes were made in the same way as the tapes of Examples 1-18 except using adhesive

compositions indicated in Table V. Some of the adhesive compositions were as taught in the prior art as follows:

5	<u>Comparative Example</u>	<u>Adhesive as Taught in</u>
	F	Sample 10 of Example III in U.S. Pat. No. 3,954,692 (Downey)
10	G	Example 4 of U.S. Pat. No. 3,932,328 (Korpman)

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TABLE V  
(Compositions in Parts)

20	<u>Comparative Example</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>
	"Finaprene" 424	40						
	"Kraton" 1107		50				100	100
	"Quintac" 3430			40	30	40		
25	"Wingtack" 10				26	11		40
	"Zonarez" A-25	22						
	"Kaydol" Oil			6			20	
	"Shellflex" 371		8					
30	"Wingtack" 95						100	100
	"Escorez" 1310	38						
	"Regalite" 355			54				
	"Regalrez" 1094				44	49		
35	"Wingtack Plus"		42					
	Composite Midblock Tg (Kelvin)	258	250	262	260	260	254	254

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Testing of comparative examples A-G is reported in Table VI.

TABLE VI

45	<u>Example</u>	<u>Probe Tack (N)</u>	<u>90° Peel Value (g/25 mm)</u>	<u>Shear Adhesion Value (minutes)</u>	<u>Self-Adhesion Peel Value (N/25 mm)</u>
50	A	13	7.3	>1000	15
	B	10	4.6	>1000	12
	C	10	13.6	>1000	12
	D	9	9.3	>1000	18
	E	12	8.0	>1000	17
55	F	11	4.9	>1000	18
	G	10	7.8	>1000	16

As indicated in Tables II and VI, comparative Examples A through G exhibit tack, peel, shear and self-adhesion values that are substantially greater than Example 1 through 18 and are typical of conventional pressure-sensitive adhesives that are based on elastomeric block copolymers.

Other embodiments of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from a consideration of this specification or practice of the invention disclosed herein. It is intended that the specification and examples be considered as exemplary only, with the true scope and spirit of the invention being indicated by the following claims.

### Claims

- 10 1. A repositionable adhesive coated substrate comprising a flexible backing and a layer of an adhesive with a composition of by weight:  
from 20 to 80 parts of at least one elastomeric block copolymer selected from styrene/butadiene, styrene/isoprene, and styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers, and  
15 correspondingly from 80 to 20 parts of tackifying material selected from tackifier resin and a blend of tackifier resin and liquid plasticizer oil,  
which adhesive has a composite midblock glass transition temperature (CMTg) from 220 Kelvin to 240 Kelvin when the adhesive is based on styrene/isoprene or styrene/ethylene-butylene block copolymers and a CMTg from 215 Kelvin to 235 Kelvin when the adhesive is based on styrene/butadiene block copolymer.  
20
2. A repositionable adhesive coated substrate as defined in claim 1, the flexible backing of which is paper.
- 25 3. A repositionable adhesive coated substrate as defined in claim 2 wherein said paper comprises a number of sheets, each bearing a stripe of said adhesive, which sheets are bound by those stripes into a tablet.
4. A repositionable adhesive coated substrate as defined in claim 1 wherein said substrate comprises a label.  
30
5. A repositionable substrate as defined in claim 1 wherein the CMTg is within 10 Kelvin of the bottom of an aforementioned range.  
35
6. A repositionable substrate as defined in claim 5 and comprising from 20 to 45 parts by weight of the elastomeric block copolymer.
7. A repositionable substrate as defined in claim 1 and containing both a tackifier resin and a liquid plasticizer oil.  
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